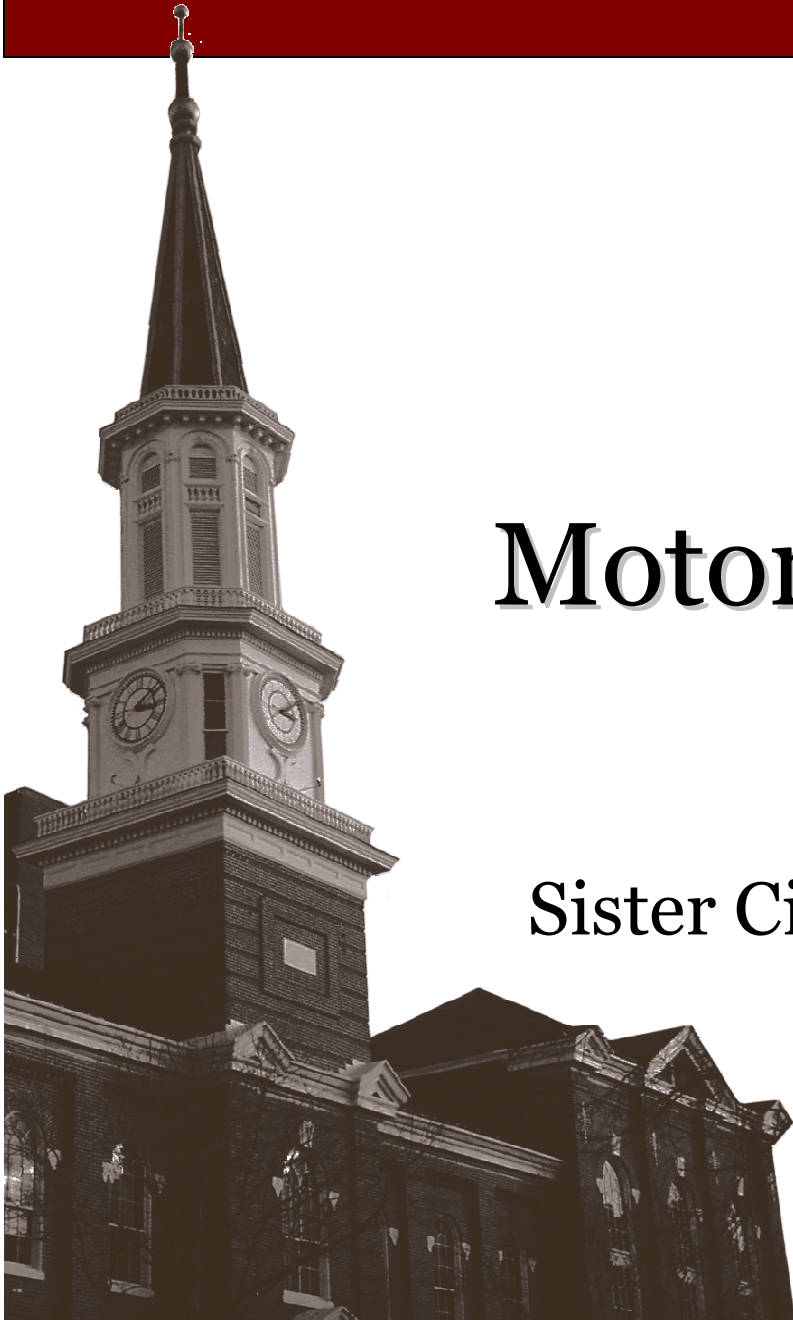


Motorcoach Task Force

October 5, 2009

Sister Cities Conference Room 1101



Meeting Agenda

- Task Force Updates
- Review Short-Term Action Item Progress
- Motorcoach Registration System Review
- Q&A



Agenda Item #1: Task Force updates

Task Force Updates

- **Richard J. Baier, Chair**, Dept. of Transportation & Environmental Services
- **Rob Aronson**, Resident, Alexandria Old & Historic District Residents Group
- **Earl L. Cook**, Chief of Police, Alexandria Police Department
- **Stephanie Brown**, Alexandria Convention & Visitors Association
- **Bert Ely**, Resident, Old Town Civic Association
- **William D. Euille, Mayor**, City of Alexandria
- **Nick Gregory**, Kimpton Hotels/Alexandria Chamber of Commerce
- **Charlotte Hall**, Potomac Riverboat Company
- **Hubert Herre**, Crown Plaza Old Town/Alexandria Hotel Association
- **Poul Hertel**, Resident, Old Town Civic Association
- **Greg Ogden**, Resident, North Old Town Independent Citizens
- **Paul C. Smedberg, Councilman**, City of Alexandria
- **Ellen Stanton**, Historic Alexandria Resources Commission
- **Tara G. Zimnick-Calico**, Old Town Business & Professional Association
- **Tim Elliott**, Old Town Civic Association

Agenda Item #2: Review Short-Term Action Items

- a) Review Short-Term Action Item Progress
- b) Motorcoach Counts (Matt Melkerson, Dept. of T&ES)
- c) Enforcement Review (Capt. David Ray, Police)
- d) 24-hour Motorcoach Information Phone Number *and* Do's and Don't Rack Card

Where are we now?

- Progress on all City Council-approved recommendations/short-term action items
 - Task Force input needed on Registration System
- Intensive enforcement efforts complete
- Counts completed in April, June
 - Planned for October, December
- Ongoing Outreach
- Continuing to address loading/unloading, parking and operational issues as they arise

Recommendations #1-7 (Approved 3/14)

1. Approve the concept of voluntary on-line motorcoach registration,
2. Allocate \$25,000 from T&ES snow reserves,
3. Request staff to conduct counts of motorcoach operations in 2009.,
4. Request that the City Manager reconvene the Ad Hoc Motorcoach Task Force as currently constituted to review long-term motorcoach management strategies,
5. Provide quarterly motorcoach updates to the Task Force and to Council, including progress reports on counts, walking tours and registration system,
6. Request that the Police Department more aggressively enforce existing City ordinances,
7. Request that Police continue its transportation management on the unit block of King Street,

Traffic & Parking Board & Council Approval (4/27-28/2009)

8. Unit block of King Street >> two-way operation to one-way westbound. **(Approved)**
9. Install 3-hour Motorcoach Parking signs on Jamieson Ave. **(Denied. Wheeler Avenue added instead.)**
10. Washington Street:
 - Designated five space on North Washington for 30-minute motorcoach loading/unloading; and
 - Designated one space on South Washington for 30-minute motorcoach loading/unloading. **(Approved)**



Motorcoach Counts

- Thursday, April 2 and Saturday, April 4
- Thursday, June 25 and Saturday, June 27
- Each day >> 16 hour counts (7 am to 11 pm)
- Methodology
 - Gateway (Video)
 - Parking, Loading and Unloading (Human)
- Next Counts
 - October 15 and 17
 - December 17 and 19

* Does not include counts of E-W streets (ie “drive-through/sightseeing”)

* Counts assume 3-5% margin of error

* Parking counts would not include buses parked illegally (enforcement)

April: Motorcoach Gateway Counts

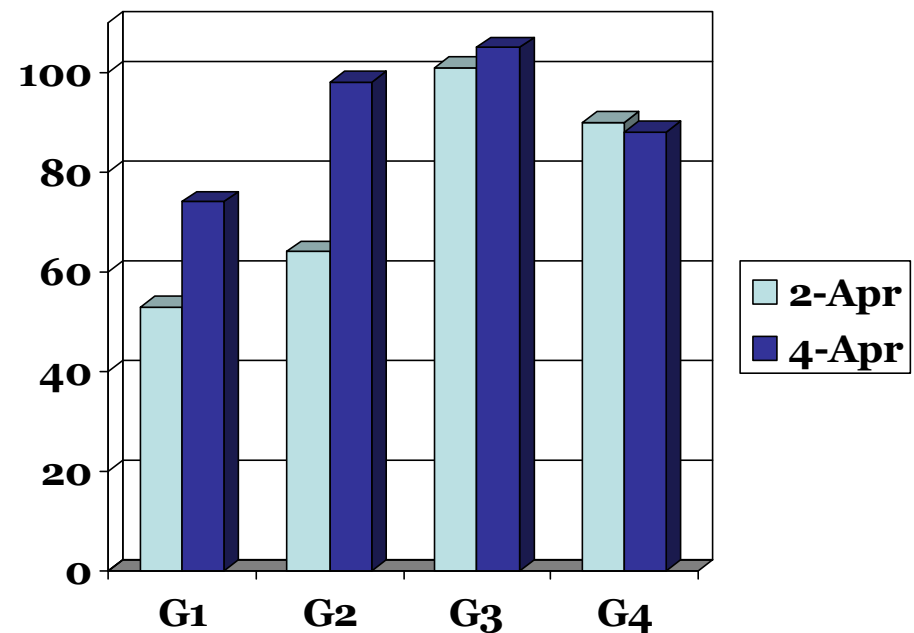
April 2: **308** total trips

April 4: **365** total trips

369 total northbound trips

304 total southbound trips

– **673 total trips**



G1: Rte 1 at Custis

G2: Rte 1 at Franklin

G3: GW Pkwy at Slaters

G4: GW Pkwy at Church St

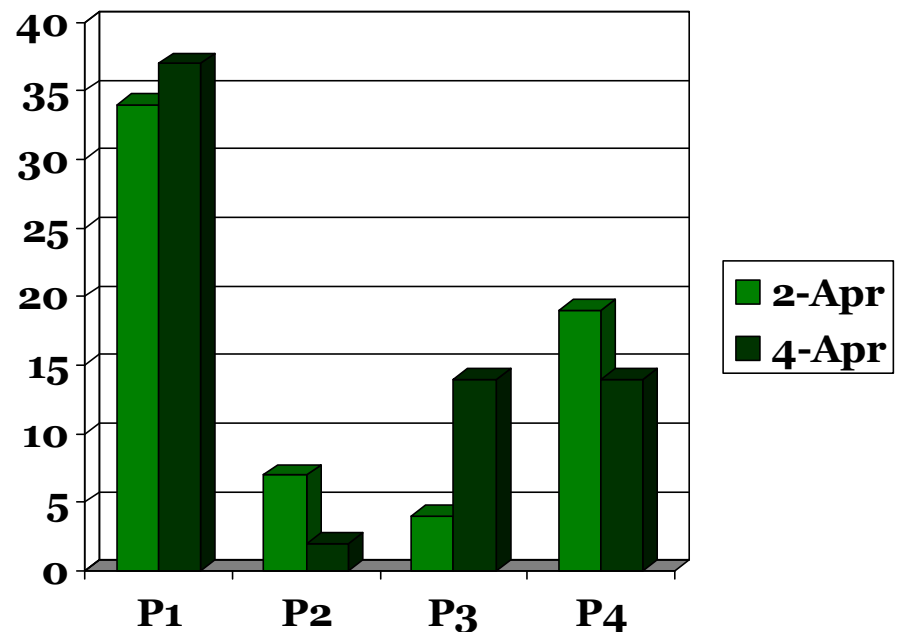
April: Parking/Loading/Unloading Counts

April 2: **64** total

April 4: **67** total

- Approx 41 passengers/bus

- P1: Market Square
- P2: Washington St
(Lyceum & 100 blocks)
- P3: Unit Block of
King/The Strand
- P4: Robinson Terminal



* P4 spot checked on Sat, 4/4

* # of passengers confirmed verbally w/operators if possible and does not include estimate for buses parked at Robinson Terminal

June: Motorcoach Gateway Counts

June 25: **119** total trips

June 27: **72** total trips

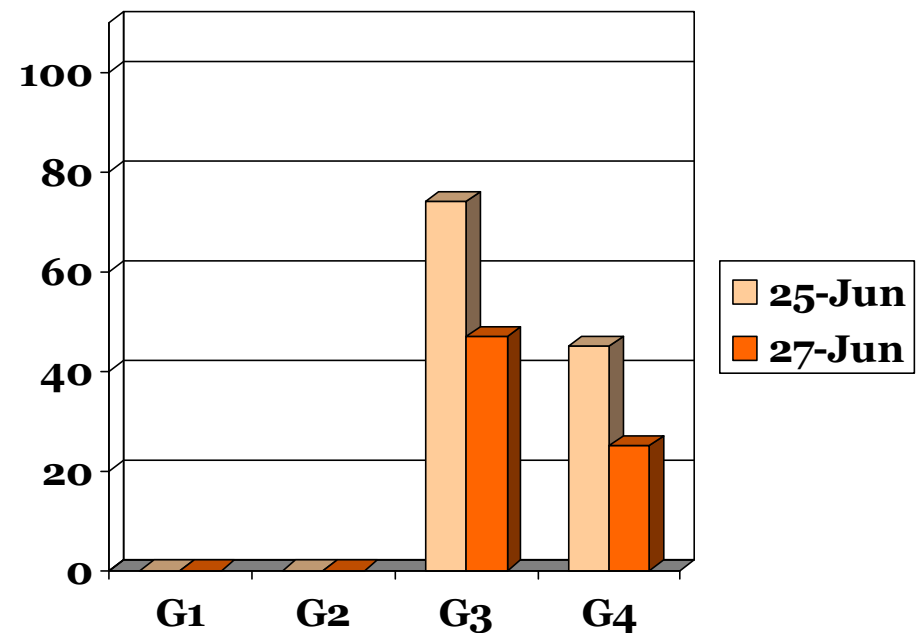
95 total northbound trips

96 total southbound trips

–191 total trips

–June counts on GW Pkwy only

–50.3% reduction from April to June on GW Pkwy



G1: Rte 1 at Custis (no data)

G2: Rte 1 at Franklin (no data)

G3: GW Pkwy at Slaters

G4: GW Pkwy at Church St

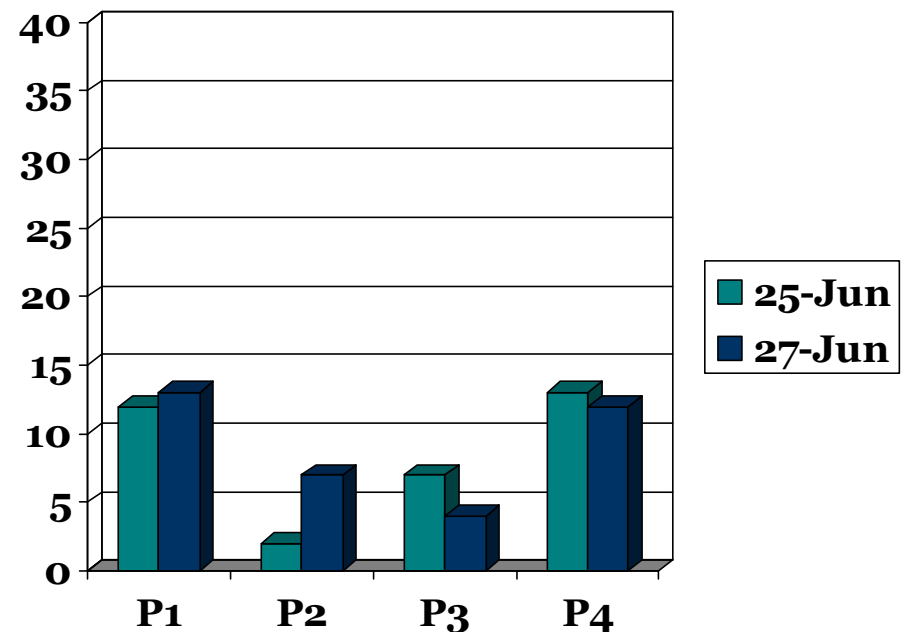
June: Parking/Loading/Unloading Counts

June 25: **34** total buses

June 27: **36** total

- Approx 26 passengers/bus

- P1: Market Square
- P2: Washington St (Lyceum & 100 blocks)
- P3: Unit Block of King/The Strand
- P4: Robinson Terminal



* Wheeler Ave. counted on 7/27 but no buses recorded

* # of passengers confirmed verbally w/operators if possible and does not include estimate for buses parked at Robinson Terminal

Enforcement

March 31-April 30:

- 384 Hours from Motor Unit and 430 hours by Parking Unit
 - Does not include Waterfront or King Street Details
- 105 total contacts with Motorcoaches resulting in 12 citations and 91 warnings
- Most prevalent problem: Coaches using locations other than designated
- Future efforts to be led by Parking Unit staff



DRAFT Spring 2009 Motorcoach Enforcement Report

****Please submit enforcement reports by 1st of each month. ****

Date Submitted:			
Contact Person:			
Telephone:			
FAX #:			
Contacts E-Mail Address:			
Enforcement Dates:			
Motorist Violations	Citations	Warnings	Total Contacts
1. Speeding			
2. Idling (longer than 15 minutes) (Va. Code 46.2-1224.1, \$50 fine)			
3. Double parking; stopping so as to obstruct traffic; stopping for loading or unloading passengers (City Code 10-4-4, 10-4-5, 10-4-15; Penalty \$200)			
4. Use of locations other than designated parking spaces by sight-seeing buses (City Code 9-12-162, \$100)			
5. Parking longer than posted (City Code 9-12-164, \$100)			
Other Violations			
6. All Other Violations			
TOTALS			
Time Spent (Total Hours for Month):			
Comments & Suggestions:			

All enforcement wave statistics should be forwarded by fax or e-mail to:
 Karen Callahan, T&ES, City of Alexandria at e-mail: karen.callahan@alexandriava.gov
 phone 703-519-3400 x 187
 fax 703-519-3356

Outreach/Communications

- Do's and Don'ts
- 24-hour Motorcoach Info Phone Number (Recorded)
 - AM radio station investigated closely but deemed too expensive & 2+ year wait for FCC approvals



Agenda Item #3: Motorcoach Registration System Review

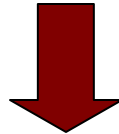
Why a *Registration System*?

Task Force recommendation/City Council approval

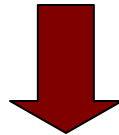
- Receipt of Report: February 24, 2009
- Public Hearing and Approval of Items #1-7: March 14, 2009
- *(Item 1) “Approve the concept of voluntary on-line motorcoach registration, and request staff to create, for future Council consideration, such a registration system including fees and daily limitations on certain types of motorcoach trips for implementation by March 2010 (page 45)”*

Process & Role of the Task Force

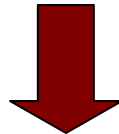
**Summer: City Workgroup Fashions Registration System
'Business Rules' for Consideration by Task Force**



Fall: Task Force Refines Framework & Guides City Workgroup



Winter: Refinement & Review by Task Force of Beta System



Spring 2010: Rules Adopted & System On-Line

General Notes

- Simple, reasonable approach that is easy to communicate
- On-Line Form
- Ease of Use w/user log-ons, possibility for annual permits
- Coordination with other City systems (ie temporary parking)

The screenshot displays the City of Alexandria's website with a red header bar containing the city logo and navigation links. The main content area is titled "Transportation & Environmental Services" and features a form for "Motorcoach Parking and Touring Registration". The form includes fields for Business, Contact Name, Daytime Phone, and Email. Below these is a section for "SHORT-TERM PARKING" with fields for Date(s) Needed, Hours, and # of spaces. It also lists two options for reserved daytime parking: Option 1 (Waterfront/Robinson Terminal) and Option 2 (North Old Town). A "QUICK LINKS" sidebar on the right lists various city services.

CITY OF Alexandria VIRGINIA
ALEXANDRIA.VA.GOV

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Home T&ES Motorcoach Parking and Touring Registration Monday, October 5 69° Air Quality: Green

Share RSS Print Text Size

Transportation & Environmental Services
Page updated Oct 5 2009 2:43 p.m.

Motorcoach Parking and Touring Registration

Business:
Contact Name:
Daytime Phone:
Email:

SHORT-TERM PARKING

Date(s) Needed:
Hours:
of spaces:

Locations of Reserved Daytime Parking:

- ☐ Option 1: Waterfront/Robinson Terminal
(500 block of N Union Street)
~ Up to 4 spaces available in three-hour blocks
- ☐ Option 2: North Old Town
(900 blocks of North St. Asaph Street)
~ Up to 2 spaces available in three-hour blocks

QUICK LINKS

- Transportation & Environmental Services
- General Information
- Bikes and Peds
- Complaint Form
- Contacts
- Compliment Form
- Construction and Inspection
- Eco-City Alexandria
- Engineering & Design
- Environmental Policy Commission
- Environmental Quality
- Maintenance Division
- Mirant Power Plant
- Motorcoach Task Force
- Plastic Bag Recycling Initiative
- Solid Waste & Recycling
- Stormwater Utility
- Traffic Calming
- Traffic & Parking Board
- Transit Services
- Transportation Commission
- Transportation Division



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Transportation & Environmental Services

Page updated Oct 5 2009 2:43 p.m.

Motorcoach Parking and Touring Registration

Business:

Contact Name:

Daytime Phone:

Email:

SHORT-TERM PARKING

Date(s) Needed:

Hours :

of spaces:

Locations of Reserved Daytime Parking:

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QUICK LINKS

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- [Eco-City Alexandria](#)
- [Engineering & Design](#)
- [Environmental Policy Commission](#)
- [Environmental Quality](#)
- [Maintenance Division](#)
- [Mirant Power Plant](#)
- [Motorcoach Task Force](#)
- [Plastic Bag Recycling Initiative](#)
- [Solid Waste & Recycling](#)
- [Stormwater Utility](#)
- [Traffic Calming](#)
- [Traffic & Parking Board](#)
- [Transit Services](#)
- [Transportation Commission](#)
- [Transportation Division](#)

System Framework/Business Rules

1. Permits will be required to reserve 3-hour parking at Waterfront/Robinson Terminal (500 block of N. Union Street), North Old Town (900 block of North St. Asaph Street) and Masonic Memorial (101 Callahan Drive). In 2010, permits will be *free*. Parking permits will be *paid* in 2011.
2. No permits will be required for short-term parking at Wheeler Avenue. These spaces will be first-come, first-served and always unreserved.
3. Loading/unloading spaces remain first-come, first-served and unreserved.
4. Permits required for buses that conduct tours of Old Town. Routes will be determined by the Motorcoach Task Force. Touring permits will be *free* in 2010, *paid* in 2011. Beginning 2011, only **XX** number of touring permits will be issued each week.

System Applied to ‘Buckets’

- **Motorcoach Trip Type #1 (Bus coming to hotel):** Bus may use commercial loading/unloading at hotel to off-load/on-load guests. Bus may apply for long-term parking permit at Masonic Memorial. Registration only required if buses plan to reserve 3-4 hour parking in Old Town. No limits on # of buses, no size restrictions.
- **Motorcoach Trip Type #2 (Bus coming to drop off patrons for boat trip or sightseeing in Old Town east of Washington Street):** Free, active loading/unloading available at Market Square, The Strand, Gadsby’s Tavern or Unit Block of King Street. Registration required if bus needs short-term (3-4 hour) parking at Robinson Terminal, St. Asaph or Masonic Temple. Unreserved parking available at Wheeler Ave. If a parking permit is desired, system may assign suggested in-bound and out-bound route based on origin/destination.
- **Motorcoach Trip Type #3 (Step-On Touring):** Touring permit required, available on-line beginning 2010. System would assign trip to one of two routes (northbound and southbound) to be approved by Motorcoach Task Force. Beginning in 2011, system would grant up to XX permits per week and permits to be displayed in bus window.
- **Motorcoach Trip Type #4 (Pass-Through):** No reservation required, loading/unloading available on Washington Street and other locations, no limits on # of buses, no size restrictions. No *touring* allowed in Old Town without permit. Unreserved parking available at Wheeler Avenue.

Discussion

Agenda Item #4: Review April 22 minutes

Agenda Item #5: Public and Task Force Q&A

Thank you.

www.alexandriava.gov/motorcoachtaskforce

Rich Baier, P.E., LEED® AP
Director, Dept. of Transportation &
Environmental Services